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SOURCE Chinese newspapers as indicated.

NORTHEAST WATER TRANSPORT
LIBERATED AREAS RAIL FACILITIES INCREASE

TO RESTORE PORT FACILITIES -- Wen-hui Pao, 23 May 49

The port of Ying-k'ou has been declared open by the Northeast Executive Committee as a means of stimulating foreign trade. Work is being carried on by the Northeast General Transport Bureau to restore the port facilities, which before being damaged by the KMT included more than 30 piers with a total length of 6,800 meters. The estimated cost of restoration will be 30 billion Northeast yuan.

On 3 February 1946, the Ministry of Communications of the Northeast Executive Committee, with a view to consolidating transport control in the Northeast, established the Northeast General Transport Bureau with headquarters at Ying-k'ou. The Ha-erh-pin (Harbin) and An-tung Bureaus were placed under the control of the new central bureau, as well as staff offices set in Chi-lin (Kirin) and Chia-mu-ssu. These administrative bodies are now all in operation.

The shipping business at Ha-erh-pin has shown excellent growth during the last 3 years. When the CCP took over the city, only six regular steamers and three tugs were available. In the midst of great raw material shortages the People's Government resolutely worked to create a fleet for the river trade. By the end of 1948 the Ha-erh-pin Transport Bureau had 103 ships and other agencies 130. In addition to these, there were 1,555 privately owned boats in operation. One million tons of water freight were carried during 1948.

Increased water transport facilities have greatly benefited the war effort and the general economy of the area.

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RAILROAD MILEAGE IN LIBERATED AREAS -- Hua Shang Pao, 25 May 49

Of the 22,287 kilometers of railroads in China, 18,480 kilometers, or about 83 percent, are located in the liberated areas; 13,821 kilometers have not been opened to traffic.

Excluding those in the Northeast, the entire 7,072 kilometers of railroads in the area north of the Ch'ang Chiang (Yangtze River) are now in the liberated areas and 3,527 kilometers, or 49 percent, are in operation.

The Pei-p'ing--Kuei-sui Line is now opened for traffic between Pei-p'ing and Chi-ning, and the Pei-p'ing--Han-k'ou Line is open between Pei-p'ing and Pao-ting. The entire T'ien-ching--P'u-kou Line (except the steel bridge over the Hwai Ho at Pang-fou) and the Lang-Hai Line between Hsin-an-chen (east of Hsu-chou) and Lo-yang, a distance of 569 kilometers, are also in operation.

In the area south of the Ch'ang Chiang, 1,019 kilometers, including about 400 kilometers in the vicinity of Nan-ching and Shang-hai, are now in the liberated areas; and are being restored to operation.

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